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REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference
(if desired) (12 characters maximum) BR036-WO-01

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION ASSEMBLY OF GAS-FILLED MICROVESICLE WITH ACTIVE COMPONENT FOR CONTRAST IMAGING	
Box No. II APPLICANT <input type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) BRACCO RESEARCH SA 31 route de la Galaise CH-1228 Plan-les-Ouates Switzerland	
Telephone No. +41.22.88.48.884	Facsimile No. +41.22.88.48.885
Teleprinter No.	Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) SCHNEIDER Michel 34 Route d'Annecy CH-1256 Troinex Switzerland	
This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)	
Applicant's registration No. with the Office	
State (that is, country) of nationality: France	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.	
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agent <input type="checkbox"/> common representative	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.) RAVIZZA Claudio Bracco Research SA Intellectual Property Department 31 Route de la Galaise CH-1228 Plan-les-Ouates Switzerland	
Telephone No. +41.22.88.48.806	Facsimile No. +41.22.88.48.885
Teleprinter No.	Agent's registration No. with the Office G.A. 46158
<input type="checkbox"/> Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.	

Form PCT/RO/101 (first sheet) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

EXHIBIT "A"

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Sheet No. ... 2 ...

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)	
If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) BUSSAT Philippe 46 Allée du Salève F-74160 Felgères France	This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (if this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.) Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality: France	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) YAN Feng 7 Chemin des Champs Gottreux CH-1216 Grand-Lancy	This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (if this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.) Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality: France	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) SENETE Anne 15 Rue des Mouettes CH-1227 Carouge	This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (if this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.) Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality: France	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (if this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.) Applicant's registration No. with the Office
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country) of residence:
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.	

Form PCY/RO/101 (continuation sheet) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

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Sheet No. 3

Box No. V DESIGNATIONS				
The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the international filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.				
However,				
<input type="checkbox"/> DE Germany is not designated for any kind of national protection <input type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea is not designated for any kind of national protection <input type="checkbox"/> RU Russian Federation is not designated for any kind of national protection				
(The check-boxes above may be used to exclude (irrevocably) the designations concerned in order to avoid the ceasing of the effect, under the national law, of an earlier national application from which priority is claimed. See the Notes to Box No. V as to the consequences of such national law provisions in these and certain other States.)				
Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM				
The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:				
Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application: regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 22.12.2003	03079014.1		EPO	
item (2)				
item (3)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.				
The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office) identified above as:				
<input type="checkbox"/> all items <input type="checkbox"/> item (1) <input type="checkbox"/> item (2) <input type="checkbox"/> item (3) <input type="checkbox"/> other, see Supplemental Box				
* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or one Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)):				
Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY				
Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):				
ISA / EPO.....				
Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):				
Date (day/month/year)	Number	Country (or regional Office)		
28.05.2004	EP03 079014	EPO		
Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS				
The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration):				Number of declarations
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (i)	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor			:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (ii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent			1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application			1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iv)	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)			2
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (v)	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty			:

Form PCT/RO/101 (second sheet) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

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Sheet No. ...4...

Box No. VIII (ii) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO APPLY FOR AND BE GRANTED A PATENT

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 212; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (ii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51 bis. 1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate:

In relation to this International Application,

Bracco Research SA is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent by virtue of the following:

is entitled as employer of the inventors :

SCHNEIDER Michel, 34 Route d'Annecy, CH-1256 Troinex, Switzerland

BUSSAT Philippe, 48 Allée du Salève, F-74160 Felgères, France

YAN Feng, 7 Chemin des Champs Gottreux, CH-1216 Grand-Lancy, Switzerland

SENENTE Anne, 15 Rue des Mouettes, CH-1227 Carouge, Switzerland

This declaration is made for the purposes of all designations, except the designation of the United States of America.

☐ This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (ii)".

Form PCT/RO/101 (declaration sheet (ii)) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

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Sheet No. 5...

Box No. VIII (III) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO CLAIM PRIORITY

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 213; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application specified below, where the applicant is not the applicant who filed the earlier application or where the applicant's name has changed since the filing of the earlier application (Rules 4.17(iii) and 51bis.1(a)(iii)):

In relation to this International Application,

SCHNEIDER Michel,
BUSSAT Philippe,
YAN Feng,
SENENTE Anne,

are entitled to claim priority of earlier application

NO. 03079014.1

by virtue of the following :

the applicant is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection was sought by way of the earlier application.

This declaration is made for the purposes of the following designations for national and/or regional patents : US

☐ This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iii)".

Form PCT/RO/101 (declaration sheet (iii)) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

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Sheet No. 6

Box No. VIII (iv) DECLARATION: INVENTORSHIP (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)
The declaration must conform to the following standardized wording provided for in Section 214; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (iv) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iv). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

**Declaration of inventorship (Rules 4.17(iv) and 51bis.1(a)(iv))
 for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America:**

I hereby declare that I believe I am the original, first and sole (if only one inventor is listed below) or joint (if more than one inventor is listed below) inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.

This declaration is directed to the international application of which it forms a part (if filing declaration with application).

This declaration is directed to international application No. PCT/..... (if furnishing declaration pursuant to Rule 26ter).

I hereby declare that my residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified international application, including the claims of said application. I have identified in the request of said application, in compliance with PCT Rule 4.10, any claim to foreign priority, and I have identified below, under the heading "Prior Applications," by application number, country or Member of the World Trade Organization, day, month and year of filing, any application for a patent or inventor's certificate filed in a country other than the United States of America, including any PCT international application designating at least one country other than the United States of America, having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed.

Prior Applications:

I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is known by me to be material to patentability as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name: SCHNEIDER Michel

Residence: Switzerland
 (city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: Route d'Annecy 34
CH-1256 Troinex - Switzerland

Citizenship: French

Inventor's Signature: [Signature] Date: 21.12.2004
 (if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent) (of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

Name: BUSSAT Philippe

Residence: France
 (city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: Allée du Salève 46
F-74160 Feigères - France

Citizenship: French

Inventor's Signature: [Signature] Date: 21.12.2004
 (if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent) (of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

☒ This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iv)".

Form PCT/RO/101 (declaration sheet (iv)) (January 2004)

See Notes to the request form

Sheet No. ...7...

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Continuation of Box No. VIII (i) to (v) DECLARATION

If the space is insufficient in any of Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) to furnish all the information, including in the case where more than two inventors are to be named in Box No. VIII (iv), in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. VIII ..." (indicate the item number of the Box) and furnish the information in the same manner as required for the purposes of the Box in which the space was insufficient. If additional space is needed in respect of two or more declarations, a separate continuation box must be used for each such declaration. If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Continuation of box No VIII (iv)

Name : YAN Feng

Residence : Switzerland
(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing address : Chemin des Champs Gottreux 7

CH-1216 Grand-Lancy, Switzerland

Citizenship : French

Inventor's signature :  Date : 21.12.04

Name : SENENTE Anne

Residence : Switzerland
(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing address : Rue des Mouettes 15

CH-1227 Carouge, Switzerland

Citizenship : French

Inventor's signature :  Date : 21.12.04

Brie übermitteln die 3 Blätter 1004.1-3 dem EPA in München, Direktion 5.1.1, und beachten Sie Blatt 1004.4, insbesondere Nr.S. 1.1.
 Please forward the 3 sheets 1004.1-3 to the EPO at Munich, Directorate 5.1.1 and pay attention to sheet 1004.4, especially point 1.1.
 Prière de faire parvenir les 3 feuilles 1004.1-3 à l'OEB à Munich, Direction 5.1.1 et de tenir compte de la feuille 1004.4, notamment du point 1.1.

**ALLGEMEINE VOLLMACHT
 GENERAL AUTHORISATION
 POUVOIR GENERAL**

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 Nr. der allgemeinen Vollmacht / General Authorisation No.
 N° du pouvoir général

46158

2 Ich (Wir) / (We) / Je (Nous)

Bracco Research S.A.
 31, Route de la Galaise
 CH-1228 Plan les Ouates
 Suisse

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3 bevollmächtigte(n) hiermit / do hereby authorize / autorise (autorisons) par la présente

Claudio Ravizza
 Bracco Research S.A.
 Intellectual Property Dept.
 31, Route de la Galaise
 CH-1228 Plan les Ouates
 Suisse

as an employee under Art. 133(3) EPC

4 mich (uns) in den durch das Europäische Patentübereinkommen geschaffenen Verfahren in allen meinen (unseren) Patentangelegenheiten zu vertreten, alle Handlungen für mich (Uns) vorzunehmen und Zahlungen für mich (Uns) in Empfang zu nehmen.

to represent me (us) in all proceedings established by the European Patent Convention and to act for me (us) in all patent transactions and to receive payments on my (our) behalf.

à me (nous) représenter pour ce qui concerne toutes mes (nos) affaires de brevet dans toute procédure instituée par la Convention sur le brevet européen et, à ce titre, à agir en mon (notre) nom et à recevoir des paiements pour mon (notre) compte.

☒ Die Vollmacht gilt auch für Verfahren nach dem Vertrag über die Internationale Zusammenarbeit auf dem Gebiet des Patentrechts.
 This authorisation shall also apply to the same extent to any proceedings established by the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
 Ce pouvoir s'applique également à toute procédure instituée par le Traité de coopération en matière de brevets.

☐ Weitere Vertreter sind auf einem gesonderten Blatt angegeben. / Additional representatives indicated on supplementary sheet.
 Les autres mandataires sont mentionnés sur une feuille supplémentaire.

5 ☒ Untervollmacht kann erteilt werden. / Sub-authorisation may be given. / Le pouvoir pourra être délégué.

6 ☒ Bitte die gelbe Kopie, ergänzt um die Nr. der allgemeinen Vollmacht, an den Vollmachtgeber zurücksenden.
 Please return the yellow copy, supplemented by the General Authorisation No., to the authoriser.
 Prière de renvoyer la copie jaune au mandant, munie du n° du pouvoir général.

Ort/Place/Lieu
 Plan les Ouates

Datum / Date
 11.11.2002

Unterschrift(en) / Signature(s)

Michel Schneider

Dr. Michel Schneider
 General Manager

7 Das Formblatt muß vom (von den) Vollmachtgeber(n) (bei juristischen Personen vom Unterschriftsberechtigten) eigenhändig unterschrieben sein. Nach der Unterschrift bitte den (die) Namen des (der) Unterschriften mit Schreibmaschine wiederholen (bei juristischen Personen die Stellung des Unterschriftsberechtigten innerhalb der Gesellschaft angeben).

The form must bear the personal signature(s) of the authoriser(s). (In the case of legal persons, that of the officer empowered to sign). After the signature, please type the name(s) of the signatory(ies) adding, in the case of legal persons, his (their) position within the company.

Le formulaire doit être signé de la propre main du (des) mandant(s) (dans le cas de personnes morales, de la personne ayant qualité pour signer). Veuillez ajouter à la machine, après la signature, le (les) nom(s) du (des) signataire(s) en mentionnant, dans le cas de personnes morales, ses (leurs) fonctions au sein de la société.

EPA/EPO/OEB Form 1004.1 04.92 (Int. ad. 12/97)

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